12 OCT '45 PM

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6 ASIATIC
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8

From: US Military Mission Moscow Russia

To: War Department

ACTION COPY

Nr: M 25735 12 October 1945

To Marshall from Maples TOPSEC M 25735.

A study of the reports from COMGEN China on the incident involving the OSS team at Mukden does not indicate that we have as yet built up a very strong case for an official protest to the Russian Government on this incident.

According to CFBX 10875, the purpose of this group, originally dropped on 16 August, was "to secure available intelligence and insofar as possible to protect US interests pending arrival of accredited US personnel." The accredited US personnel were introduced into the Mukden area during early September and completed the greater part of the evacuation of prisoners and internees. The fact that this personnel had departed, leaving only the one team in the area with the primary job of collecting intelligence, could not fail to arouse the antagonism of the Russians. This is particularly true in view of the fact that the Russians are well aware of the nature of OSS activities, having negotiated exchanges of information through this headquarters between OSS and the NKVD.

Both the Ambassador and Ritchie agree with my feeling that lodging a strong protest from you with General Antonov on this particular group of men might lead to an exchange of recriminatory correspondence in which we would not be on very sound basis. This is particularly true at this time because of the existing tension throughout all governmental departments created by the London Conference.

CM-IN-5756 (12 Oct 45)

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
NND 750120
By CDN NARS, Date DEC 17 1975

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It is therefore recommended that no protest be lodged until General Wedemeyer has had an opportunity to interview the OSS personnel involved and obtain more complete evidence that the actions of the Russians were antagonistic to and interfered with the work of the protection and evacuation of American nationals.

However, it is suggested that this incident be brought to the attention of the Red General Staff and they be asked if that is an indication of a change in the present policy of allowing US representatives to operate in Russian controlled territory to supervise the evacuation of US prisoners of war and nationals. This might well be brought up in connection with the present arrangements being made with Gotsbev for the introduction of a Russian team into Hanoi to supervise the evacuation of some 325 Russian POWs and nationals.

End.

NOTE: 10875 is CM-IN-3250 (7 Oct 45) OPD (Gen Wedemeyer)

ACTION: Gen Hull

INFO : OPD (for State); Gen Bissell; Gen Magruder; Mr McCloy; C of S

CM-IN-5756 (12 Oct 45) DTG 121520W hcw

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